



e-Newsletter, Issue 3, July 2011

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An Appeal

We have recently found a few discrepancies in our membership database, specially in the contact addresses of members. Members are earnestly requested to take time and go online (to “my ASCE” at www.asce.org/myprofile), create, and periodically update their individual profiles so that the most recent contact information on each member remains on file. This will indeed facilitate effective communication at all times.

The Interim Executive Committee of ASCE-IS is trying to make the publication of its e-Newsletter a regular affair. In this effort, an appeal is hereby conveyed to all the members to carefully read the content of the e-Newsletter as important information about membership, activities of four new Regions, and forthcoming events of these Regions will be communicated to the members. With the advent of electronic era, ASCE-IS is also trying to avoid postal communication and the preferred mode of communication would be through email.

1.0 ASCE-IS Membership

ASCE-India Section is happy to let its members know about some really great offers for existing and student members to retain their memberships. The revised dues should also encourage others to become members of ASCE. Information contained in this e-Newsletter is marginally different from the information that was circulated earlier amongst the members due to minor adjustments by ASCE. The information contained in this e-Newsletter supersedes all previously communicated structure of membership subscription dues. It may be noted that this new subscription structure will be applicable for the next 3 years. The salient details of the offer are given below in line with different membership status.

1.1 Professional Membership

If you are an existing member in good standing – The yearly membership dues has been reduced from \$105 to \$71.5, a reduction to almost 33% of the full amount of \$210, payable by US members. For Fellows, the dues will be \$83.30.

If you are an existing member in arrears – ASCE has decided to forgo the pending dues. Hence, if one is worried about pending dues, they can still get reinstated as members of ASCE by just paying their dues for the current year (i.e. \$71.5). However, this

offer is valid only for payments received after 1st of August and before 31st December, 2011.

1.2 Student Membership

The membership options for various stages of student membership are given below. It needs to be noted that only under-graduate students enjoy free ASCE Student Membership and can use the title “SM.ASCE”.

Graduate students (students who have already obtained their BE/BS/BTech) are required to report their status from the year of graduation with their BE/BS/BTech degree.

Still in University/College – If someone is still an undergraduate/graduate student, he/she is requested to go online to www.asce.org annually and renew their free membership each year by declaring their year of study so that ASCE knows about his/her status. At the same time, students are requested to update their contact information.

Left University/College a few months back - If someone has just left school a few months ago and did not have time to let ASCE know, he/she is requested to consider being a professional member of ASCE. The structure of subscription dues for professional membership has been reduced further for your benefit.

The discounted fee structure as it stands now is given below and the figures within the parentheses refer to normal dues without any discount.

- Year of Bachelor's degree \$17 (\$50),
- 1 Year after Bachelor's degree \$17 (\$50),
- 2 Years after Bachelor's degree \$27.2 (\$80),
- 3 Years after Bachelor's degree \$39.1 (\$115),
- 4 Years after Bachelor's degree \$54.44 (\$160), and
- 5 Years after Bachelor's degree \$71.5 (\$210).

Left University/College a few years back – If one left school a few years back and has arrears in his/her name, ASCE will reinstate your membership if you pay the dues just for the current year (i.e. as per the above).

Left University/College > 5 years back – ASCE does not recognize a student if he/she had graduated more than 5 years back. He/she will be considered a professional and accordingly the appropriate membership dues will be applicable. For students who are into their profession for more than 5 years after graduation, the current yearly membership dues have been reduced to \$71.5, as indicated earlier.

1.3 New Membership

ASCE has come up with a few options to give potential future members the best deal ever that has been offered to new ASCE-IS members. To avail the special rate, membership applicants must write "INDIA 11" at the top right corner of the application form. This is intended to induct new members to the family of ASCE-IS. This will give them a 25% discount on the current dues until the end of 2011. After July 31st, 2011 this offer lapses.

From August 1st, 2011 will no longer pro-rate the dues and will instead charge the full standard dues for the following year 2012 for ASCE membership. This will be \$71.50 and the last portion of year 2011 will come as free. In this instance the "India 11" discount does not apply as it was only meant to assist with the 2011 applications.

New applicants are encouraged to wait until August 1 and then apply to get membership worth of 17 months for the cost of 12 months at \$71.50.

Members are requested to check the dues they were charged as per the following cases. In case a member thinks that he/she was overcharged, the member is very much encouraged to write to <member@asce.org> for a possible refund/credit.

2.0 Section Dues

At the RTC that was held in New Delhi on 3rd June, 2011, it was decided that Rs. 450 would be collected as section dues from all professional members. Paying section dues is mandatory for all India Section members except students and life members of ASCE. To reduce the cost of transactions, the section dues will be collected locally in Indian Rupees by ASCE-IS. This has been now decided that this section dues, as applicable now, will be for the year 2012. The last date of receiving section dues would be December 31st, 2011.

Members who send in their dues will be presented with ASCE gift items as a token of appreciation for their support of ASCE-India Section. Such gift items will be sent by post along with the payment receipt. Only those members who send in their dues before the due date will

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receive these gift items. The current ExCom is now in the process of finalizing these items and their design in line with ASCE standards. Members are encouraged to send in their dues as early as possible and avail themselves of this opportunity.

Members are requested to send in their payment in check/draft favoring “American Society of Civil Engineers – India Section” to the address given on the first page of this e-Newsletter. Members should quote their ASCE membership no. at the back of their check/draft. Members should also send their complete and current postal addresses where they would like the gift to be sent along with their payment.

ASCE-IS is currently trying to come up with an electronic deposit system where members can directly deposit their section dues through online banking. An email will shortly be circulated amongst the members to apprise them of such an arrangement. This email will contain exclusive information about this to facilitate members who would like to do an electronic transfer instead of sending a check/draft by post.

However, those who use this facility should send their electronic receipt, complete postal address, and membership no. by email so that their receipt and gift items can be mailed to them.

3.0 ASCE-IS Website

Efforts are currently underway to launch the ASCE-IS website in the www.asce.org server and members can expect it to happen shortly. Launching of ASCE-IS is specially aimed at serving its members better, its use as an informative resource station, and encourage members to get involved with the activities of their respective regions.

The ASCE-IS website will have different sections for the members to explore. Amongst other things, members will be able to know about the past, current, and future activities of his/her regions from the website. The various sections of the website as planned till now are as follows,

ASCE-India Section –

A brief history of the section since its inception in 1988 will be given under this.

Objectives –

The basic objectives of ASCE-IS will be delineated here.

Governing Documents –

The governing documents (the constitution and bylaws) applicable for ASCE-IS will be posted.

Report/e-Newsletter –

Previous report and electronic newsletters of ASCE-IS will be available.

India Section Regions –

Brief description of the four regions of ASCE-IS (east, west, north, and south) will be furnished.

Current officers –

The names and contact email addresses of current national level Executive Committee and Regional Committee members will be given here.

“Get and stay involved” –

Membership application and advancement information will be available under this to encourage induction of new members and advancement of grade for existing members.

4.0 Technical Talk on Arsenic

ASCE-IS organized its first technical talk titled “The Arsenic Crisis: Scale, Mitigation, and Beyond...” on 22nd July 2011 at Dr. Triguna Sen Auditorium of Jadavpur University, Kolkata. There had been a turnout of about 100 people from different universities, government departments, and other organizations. Dr. Gisuddin Ahmed Choudhury of ASCE – Bangladesh Section flew in from Bangladesh to attend the talk and represented ASCE - Bangladesh Section. A reasonably detailed account of this event and discussions will be given in the next e-Newsletter of ASCE-IS.

ASCE-IS invites applications from donors for space in e-Newsletter of ASCE-IS.

Please contact Dr. A K Kar, ASCE-IS President at asce.is.email@gmail.com for details.

In case you have any questions about new membership, please let us know.

To get involved with ASCE, please send an email to member@asce.org

5.0 Application for Distinguished ASCE Fellow

ASCE-IS would like to let its members know that there are two highly qualified individuals who have been recognized with the rare distinction of being “ASCE Distinguish Member and Fellow”.

In case any ASCE Fellow in India wishes to apply for such an honor, he/she is requested to apply within August 14th, 2011. Interested Fellows can visit the website at <http://content.asce.org/handa/hm.html> for more information on application and requirements.

Fellow applicants are also requested to let the ExCom of ASCE-IS know about their professional achievements in a brief write-up delineating the contribution of the person to Civil Engineering. Fellows should include information on their educational background, professional certification, number of national and international journal publications, patent information, publication of books, etc. Specific information on such items will be necessary for a complete application.

ASCE-IS can help them by forwarding the applications of up to two Fellows this year.



Is committed to reach out to its India Section Members

In case you are not getting regular ASCE/ASCE-IS emails,
Please send us your updated contact details

Name _____

ASCE Membership No. _____

Current Mailing Address _____

Email address _____

Phone No. _____

Please send your details by Email to international@asce.org or

By post to “President, ASCE-IS, BC 96 Salt Lake City, Sector I, Kolkata 700 064”